Live quarry shooting and deer stalking in Scotland from May 28th
22 May 2020 by Scottish Countryside Alliance

Following the First Minister's announcement on Thursday 21 May, and “Scotland’s route map through and out of this crisis” subsequently issued by the government, we are updating our guidance for shooters and deer stalkers under the COVID-19 lockdown procedures. This guidance applies to Scotland only.

When we enter Phase one (likely to be the 28th May) it will be permissible to undertake non-contact outdoor activities in the local area’. This means that recreational deer stalking and pigeon shooting will be able to take place provided they take place locally – defined as ‘broadly within five miles’ of your home – and in a solitary manner, following the usual laws that govern these activities.

The guidelines that will be in place from that date are below. We remind you of the restrictions to distance that can be travelled to undertake these activities, we would encourage you to exercise common sense and only shoot and stalk as locally as possible. It is in the interests of limiting contacts and the spread of the disease, and it is therefore a responsible code to abide by.

If you are shooting live quarry or deer stalking from 28th May:

- When we enter phase 1 (likely to be the 28th May), ‘non-contact outdoor activities in the local area’ will be permitted. This means that recreational deer stalking, pigeon shooting, and angling will be able to take place provided they take place locally – defined as ‘broadly within five miles’ of your community – and in a solitary manner.
- When we enter phase 3 (date not confirmed), travel beyond your local area for the purposes of leisure will be permitted. This means you will be able to travel outside of your local area to undertake solitary activities like deer stalking. Other shooting activities may also be acceptable at this stage, but we will await further guidance from the government on this.
- Essential shooting activity for the protection of livestock and foodstuffs will be able to take place as it has done over the course of lockdown.

You can find further updates here:

- COVID-19 Shooting